

Application No: 10/666,861 Docket No.: Q137-US2

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IN THE CLAIMS

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1. (currently amended) An electric storage battery, comprising:
 - a case defining an interior volume; and
 - an electrode assembly in the interior volume, the electrode assembly including
 - an electrically conductive elongate pin, and
 - first and second electrode strips wound around the pin,
 - the first electrode strip being in electrical communication with ~~coupled to~~ the pin; and
 - an elongate mandrel fitted around the pin, the mandrel being electrically conducting and in electrical communication with the pin.
2. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the pin extends from the interior volume through the case such that the pin is configured to function as a first battery terminal.
3. (canceled)
4. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein at least one weld directly connects the first electrode strip to the pin.
5. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the pin consists of a PtIr alloy.
6. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a first end cap mounted on the pin,
 - the first end cap including an electrical insulator,
 - the pin extending through the electrical insulator, and
 - the pin being hermetically sealed to the electrical insulator.
7. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the mandrel defines an elongate slot and the first electrode strip extends through the slot.

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8. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein a weld attaches the mandrel to the pin.

9. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the mandrel includes titanium or an alloy of titanium.

10.-65. (canceled)

66. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein a crimp connects the mandrel to the pin.

67. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the mandrel includes a tube.

68. (previously presented) The battery of claim 67, wherein the pin is positioned in an interior of the tube.

69. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the mandrel has a c-shaped cross-section.

70. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein a portion of the first electrode strip is positioned between the mandrel and the pin.

71. (previously presented) The battery of claim 1, wherein the mandrel is fitted around the pin such that the first electrode strip and the second electrode strip are wound around the mandrel.